



Republic of Malawi

**NATIONAL STATEMENT
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW URBAN AGENDA**

DELIVERED BY

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**ON THE OCCASION OF THE
HIGH-LEVEL MEETING FOR THE MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE
NEW URBAN AGENDA**

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General Assembly Hall**

**Permanent Mission of the Republic of Malawi to the United Nations
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Madam President,

Malawi associates itself with the statement delivered by Uruguay on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

A decade after the adoption of the New Urban Agenda, this Midterm Review offers a timely opportunity to assess our collective achievements, learn from our experiences, and renew our collective resolve to accelerate implementation over the remaining decade to 2036.

For Malawi, urbanization is both a challenge and a catalyst for sustainable development. Although only 20 of our population currently resides in urban areas, our towns and cities are expanding at an unprecedented pace. This rapid growth has increased pressure on housing, infrastructure and essential services, with almost 70 per cent of our urban population living in informal settlements.

In response, Malawi has made sustainable urbanization a national development priority under the Malawi 2063 Vision. The strategy has proposed the development of secondary cities to promote territorial development. This will create growth points throughout the country and improve rural urban linkages to ensure that the benefits of urbanization are spread to rural areas.

Government has embraced decentralization to empower local government authorities to ensure that they have the capacity to implement urban development programmes. which are key to achieving the SDGs, the New urban Agenda and Malawi 2063.

Madam President,

Malawi is convinced that the coming decade must be defined by decisive implementation. This requires greater investment in affordable housing, resilient

infrastructure, basic urban services and the upgrading of informal settlements.

Achieving these objectives will require stronger collaboration among national and local governments, the private sector, civil society, communities and development partners. In recognition of this, Malawi partnered with Habitat for Humanity Malawi, service providers and a local government Authority in a slum upgrading intervention which resulted in the transformation of an informal settlement in the City of Lilongwe. Equally important is improved access for developing countries to climate finance, technology transfer and technical assistance to build more resilient and sustainable cities.

Madam President,

Malawi recognizes the importance of multilateral collaboration in the implementation and achievement of

local and global agendas. Malawi remains firmly committed to working with UN-Habitat and all partners to ensure that urbanization becomes a driver of inclusive growth, resilience and prosperity, leaving no one and no place behind.

I thank you.